

IN THE ABSTRACT:

~~The present invention relates generally to materials handling and in particular to~~ An apparatus for dispensing materials in fine powder form, such as ~~for example toner.~~ ~~According to one aspect of the present invention, there is provided a dispenser device including:~~ , may include a dispenser device body (10) having an inlet end (14) and an outlet end (16); , and a transport passage (12) arranged therebetween ~~[[,]] wherein the .~~ The cross-sectional internal dimension at the inlet end (22) of the transport passage (12) ~~are~~ is equal to or smaller than the cross-sectional internal dimension at the outlet end (16) of the transport passage ~~.(12); at~~ At least two sealable connector sections (18,20); are located at or near the inlet (14) and outlet ends (16); ~~the device when in use being~~ and sealingly connectable connect the device with filler vessels and unfilled vessels respectively. The arrangement ~~is such that the~~ sealable connection between said the dispenser device and said the unfilled vessel provides a substantially air tight seal so that air within the unfilled vessel is displaced by powder from the filler vessel and passes through the transport passage during the filling operation. ~~This provides for a significant advantage in that the air causes agitation of the material within the passage, reducing the chances of clogging and blockage.~~